

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1-25 were previously pending in the application. Claims 2 and 14 are canceled; leaving claims 1, 3-13 and 15-25 for consideration.

Claim 18 is amended to change "each resolution reduction means" to "said resolution reduction means" so that claim 18 is consistent with claim 15 from which it depends. Amending claim 18 in this manner is believed to obviate the 35 USC §112, second paragraph rejection noted in the Official Action.

Claims 1-2 and 10-13 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by HO et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0193922. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended and recites that the step of reducing resolution of oversampled input signals includes sample-combining and down-sampling the oversampled input signals. See, for example, element 202 of Figures 5, 6 and 7 of the present invention.

As noted in the Official Action, Figure 6 element 620 of HO discloses that an oversampled incoming signal is down-sampled. However, HO does not disclose that the oversampled

input signals include sample-combining and down-sampling the oversampled input signals as recited.

As the reference does not disclose that which is recited, the anticipation rejection as to claim 1 is untenable. Claims 10-12 depend from claim 1 and further define the invention and are also believed to define over HO at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

Independent claim 13 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 14. As HO was not applied against claim 14, claim 13 as thus amended is believed to define over HO.

Claims 1-4 and 10-18 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by NASSIRI-TOUSSI et al. 7,194,011. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended and recites that the step of reducing resolution of the oversampled input signals includes sample-combining and down-sampling the oversampled input signals.

As set forth in the Official Action, column 7, lines 9-22 of NASSIRI-TOUSSI discloses a Finite Impulse Response (FIR) filter. As disclosed on page 13, lines 19-21 of the present application, FIR filtering is based on sample-combining. NASSIRI-TOUSSI does not disclose sample-combining and down-sampling the oversampled input signals as recited. As the reference does not disclose that which is recited, claim 1 and the claims that depend therefrom are believed to define over NASSIRI-TOUSSI.

Claim 3 is rewritten in independent form and recites that plural identification steps each produce an output in a form of reference timing output signals. Claim 3 further recites the step of converting the reference timing output signals back to an un-reduced resolution when each identification step is complete.

The position set forth in the Official Action is that when slot timing identification of Figure 3 is complete, its output is received as input of unit 410 of Figure 4, which in addition receives un-reduced streams of I and Q samples; thus, fairly characterizes as converting them back to an un-reduced resolution.

However, this position is inconsistent with what is recited.

As seen in Figures 5, 6 and 7 of the present application, by way of example, each step of the process converts the reference timing output signals back to un-reduced resolution. See for example element 211 of Figures 5, 6 and 7.

If the output from Figure 3 is input to unit 410 of Figure 4 of NASSIRI-TOUSSSI, then in order to meet the limitation of the claim, such output would have to be converted back to un-reduced resolution. The addition of un-reduced streams of I and Q samples into unit 410 does not meet the limitation of each of the identification steps producing an output in the form of reference timing output signals that have been reduced and

converting the reference timing output signals back to an un-reduced resolution.

Rather, it appears that NASSIRI-TOUSSI may reduce the resolution in the primary search stage but does not disclose reducing resolution and then converting back to an un-reduced resolution in each of plural stages as recited.

As the reference does not disclose in as much detail that which is recited, the anticipation rejection is not viable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested. Accordingly, claim 3 and the claims that depend therefrom are believed to define over NASSIRI-TOUSSI.

The analysis above regarding claim 3 is equally applicable to independent claim 13. Thus, claim 13 and the claims that depend therefrom are believed to define over NASSIRI-TOUSSI.

Claims 5-9 and 19-25 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over NASSIRI-TOUSSI in view of applicants' disclosed prior art Figure 1 and the discussion in the Background of the Invention of the present invention. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' disclosed prior art does not overcome the shortcomings of NASSIRI-TOUSSI set forth above with respect to claims 3 and 13. Since claims 5-9 and 19-25 depend from claims 3 and 13, respectively and further define the invention, claims 5-9

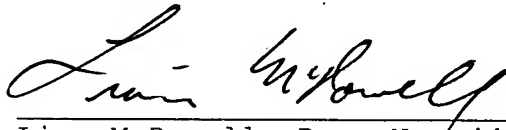
and 19-25 are believed patentable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Liam McDowell, Reg. No. 44,231
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

LM/lk